

# Frisco Eddie's Revenge: The Return

A series by Balboa Ron Schweikert

(In the last episode, after Eddie had returned to Tacoma Tim's, before flying back home, to give Lil her share of the \$10,000 they won in Texas, the relationship between the two "business partners" suddenly changed. They became lovers and Eddie decided to stay with Lil instead of returning home to The Blue Moon and Shelley. We left them at the kitchen table, after Tim's satisfying breakfast, holding hands and staring into each other's eyes.....)

Lil and Eddie were still staring into each other's eyes as Tim broke the spell by saying: "I hate to break up this moment of bliss, but I was kind of interested in what your plans might be."

Lil replied: "Our main plans right now are just to try and stay happy -- and keep out of trouble! We discussed things a little, and we plan to scout around the Northwest area for awhile and then fly back to L.A. We may just go by car after that and take in some of the sights along the way." Eddie added: "Hey, it'll be kind of like one of those 'Honeymoon' trips; right, Lil?" Lil looked at him and said: "Eddie, it'll be however you want it to be. O.K.?"

Tim said he thought the plan sounded pretty good and then proceeded to fill them in on what he knew about the current action in the Washington/Oregon areas. He told them what he thought they should watch out for. He specifically stated who they shouldn't try to go up against so as not to blow Eddie's cover.

After they all pitched in to clean up the breakfast dishes, Lil and Eddie went to their room and packed their bags. Tim had offered to take them to a few of the local spots before they took off on their own.

The sun was shining brightly as they loaded their bags into Tim's Bronco. They could clearly see the brilliance of Mount Ranier with the sun shining down on its snow-covered peaks. It was beautiful.

After they had started to drive, Tim began to relate a tale about his brother. It seems his brother, whose name was Gary, used to be in the service and was stationed at Fort Lewis, which was off to their left.

He told the story this way: "Now, Gary was a pilot at Fort Lewis and he used to fly 'fixed-wing' aircraft out of there in the mid-'60s. They flew mostly U-8's and T-42's, where were twin-engine, gas-driven, four-seaters. Gary also used to write prose about his experiences as a pilot, and I'll try to tell it to you the way he wrote it. O.K.?"

They both said to "carry on" and he did: "The piece I liked best was titled 'The Two Problems of Great Northwest Flying' and it went this way....."

"Flying airplanes is fun -- but not always...in the old days. If you're flying from Tacoma to Yakima, you had

problems. One was the weather: for the first two-thirds of the way, you'd be in the clouds and the rain, or the hail, or ice and snow -- and sometimes all of the above.

"By itself, that's no big thing -- but there happens to be a rather large rock in the way. It's called Mount Ranier.

"When we flew to the south of it (in those days), there was no radar. Halfway around the rock, you couldn't talk to anyone (on the ground), and the instruments would get shaky, and so would my co-pilot.

"Now, you never knew for sure exactly just how close you were to that 14,383 foot giant. I'd curse that rock because I knew for sure that one day.....it would send me to hell!

"They'd put us in a holding pattern at the SE side of that rock, and the mixed snow, rain, and hail would actually put dents in the aircraft at times.

"After they would finally give us our 'let-down' clearance, we could begin our descent -- and just like clockwork, we'd break out into the clear!

"Everything would be temporarily forgotten then, until our SECOND big problem would arise. In 10 minutes we'd be on the ground and have to figure out if we were going to have ham, bacon or sausage with our eggs....at the Flight Deck Cafe."

After a short hesitation, Lil and Eddie let out a good chuckle. They had now reached I-5, and Tim asked them: "O.K., guys -- which way do you want to turn? There's action on either side. Make your choice....and let's let the shuffleboard action begin!"

--TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH--

(There are a lot of readers who know exactly where this point of decision is and will be interested in **which** way, **who** do they meet, and **what** will be the outcome of that action and **why**. While the characters and activity in Frisco Eddie are fictional, they are based on real life! We're glad to report that Balboa Ron is on the mend after his recent hospitalization. Your cards and good wishes will help speed his recovery: Balboa Ron Schweikert, 8301 W. Charleston Blvd. #1050, Las Vegas, NV 89117. Hopefully, Ron will be at the PCSA Extravaganza at the Showboat in Vegas and we encourage participants to take a moment to tell him you appreciate his contributions to shuffleboard through this series. Your appreciation is the only compensation he receives for the hours and hours he devotes to this series. Thanks, Glen Davidson, for including him on your "Thank List" on Page 7.)